

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 13

TUESDAY, 19 APRIL 1977

1 The House met, at 2.15 p.m., pursuant to adjournment. Mr Speaker (the Right Honourable B. M. Snedden) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 PETITIONS: The Clerk announced that the following Members had each lodged petitions for presentation, viz.:

Mr Anthony, Mr Connolly, Mr Dobie, Mr Ellicott, Mr Graham, Mr Howard, Mr O'Keefe, Mr I. L. Robinson, Mr Sinclair and Mr Sullivan—from certain members of the Service Station Association of N.S.W. Ltd and others praying that in implementing the findings of the Royal Commission on Petroleum the needs of the motoring public and the retail petroleum industry be given every consideration.

Dr Klugman, Mr Neil, Mr I. L. Robinson and Mr Sullivan—from certain citizens praying that increases in the Consumer Price Index be applied to pensions and that future pensions not be reduced as a result of any revision of the Index.

Mr Bouchier, Mr Fraser and Mr Holten—from certain citizens praying that the Government totally finance national highways and provide half the cost of all other public roads.

Mr Adermann—from certain citizens praying that the Government's long-term policy be to provide 50 per cent of funds for roads.

Mr Newman—from certain citizens of the Launceston area, Tas., in the same terms as the last preceding petition.

Mr Braithwaite—from certain citizens praying that private clinics be prevented from performing abortions in the A.C.T. and that abortions not be financed through Medibank.

Mr Calder—from certain citizens praying that the proposed primary school for Katherine South, N.T., be included in the 1976-77 capital works program.

Mr Chapman—from certain electors praying that education policies and funding priorities reflect public concern and be based on needs, as expressed by certain education authorities.

Mr Groom—from certain citizens praying for the implementation of the recommendations of the Nimmo Report which relate to assistance for air passengers travelling to and from King Island.

Mr Hunt—from certain citizens praying that the recommendations of the Committee of Inquiry into Public Libraries be implemented.

Mr Hunt—from certain citizens praying that the recommendations of the Commonwealth Bureau of Roads for the funding of local roads in N.S.W. be adopted.

Dr Klugman—from certain citizens praying that the independence of the Australian Broadcasting Commission be maintained and certain other action be taken in connection with the A.B.C. and broadcasting.

Mr McLean—from certain citizens praying that an inquiry be made into the Australian Legal Aid Office.

Mr E. G. Whitlam—from certain citizens praying that education expenditure be increased and certain other action be taken in connection with student assistance.

Petitions received.

3 MINISTERIAL ARRANGEMENTS: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister) informed the House of the following ministerial arrangements during the respective absences abroad of Mr Anthony (Minister for National Resources and Minister for Overseas Trade), Mr Peacock (Minister for Foreign Affairs) and Mr Viner (Minister for Aboriginal Affairs):

Mr Nixon (Minister for Transport) was acting as Minister for National Resources, Senator Cotton (Minister for Industry and Commerce) was acting as Minister for Overseas Trade and Mr Howard (Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs) was representing the Acting Minister for Overseas Trade in this House;

Mr Sinclair (Minister for Primary Industry) was acting as Minister for Foreign Affairs, and

Senator Guilfoyle (Minister for Social Security) was acting as Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Mr Newman (Minister for Environment, Housing and Community Development) was representing the Acting Minister for Aboriginal Affairs in this House.

4 QUESTIONS: Questions without notice were asked.

5 PAPERS: The following papers were presented:

By command of His Excellency the Governor-General:

Australian Agricultural Council—Resolutions—99th meeting, Sydney, 8 October 1976.

Industries Assistance Commission—Reports—

Australian olive industry, dated 3 December 1976.

Monochrome television receivers and certain electronic components, dated 26 November 1976.

Pursuant to statute:

Remuneration Tribunals Act—Academic Salaries Tribunal—Determination and report, dated 18 March 1977—Academic staff of institutions of tertiary education.

6 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS MOVED: Mr Scholes moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the Prime Minister making an immediate statement setting out in specific terms the guidelines on the wages-price freeze which he indicates has been in effect for at least 5 days and, specifically, whether primary products, perishable goods, imports, tariff charges, and the flow-on of the March indexation decision which have been the subject of conflicting statements by the Prime Minister, State Premiers and Federal Ministers, are involved in the freeze, and under what circumstances and by what means prices control will be implemented and maintained.

Debate ensued.

Closure: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House) moved—That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Mr Snedden, in the Chair)—

AYES, 76

Mr Abel	Mr Drummond	Mr Kelly	Mr O'Keefe
Mr Adermann	Dr Edwards	Mr Killen	Mr Porter
Mr Aldred	Mr Ellicott	Mr King	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Baillieu	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Fife	Mr Lucock	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Birney	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Shipton
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fraser	Mr Lynch	Mr Short
Mr Bouchier	Mr Garland	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bradfield	Mr Gillard	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Street
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLean	Mr Sullivan
Mr Brown	Mr Graham	Mr McLeay	Mr Thomson
Mr Bungey	Mr Hamer	Mr W. McMahan	Mr Wentworth
Mr Burr	Mr Haslem	Mr McVeigh	Mr Wilson
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Macphee	Mr Yates
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Holten	Mr Martyr	
Mr Calder	Mr Howard	Mr Millar	
Mr Chapman	Mr Hunt	Mr Moore	
Mr Chipp	Mr Hyde	Mr Neil	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connolly	Mr Jull	Mr Newman	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Cotter	Mr Katter	Mr Nixon	Mr Corbett

NOES, 33

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam
Mr Beazley	Mr Fry	Dr Klugman	Mr E. G. Whitlam
Mr Bryant	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahan	Mr Willis
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	Mr Young
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	
Dr Cass	Mr Jacobi	Mr Scholes	
Mr Cohen	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Uren	Mr James
Mr Crean	Mr Jones	Mr Wallis	Mr L. R. Johnson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion be agreed to—being accordingly put—

The House divided (the Speaker, Mr Snedden, in the Chair)—

AYES, 33

Mr Armitage	Mr FitzPatrick	Mr Keating	Mr A. P. Whitlam
Mr Beazley	Mr Fry	Dr Klugman	Mr E. G. Whitlam
Mr Bryant	Mr Hayden	Mr J. L. McMahan	Mr Willis
Dr J. F. Cairns	Mr Hurford	Mr Martin	Mr Young
Mr C. R. Cameron	Mr Innes	Mr Morris	
Dr Cass	Mr Jacobi	Mr Scholes	
Mr Cohen	Dr Jenkins	Mr Stewart	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connor	Mr L. K. Johnson	Mr Uren	Mr James
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Mr Adermann	Dr Edwards	Mr Killen	Mr Porter
Mr Aldred	Mr Ellicott	Mr King	Mr E. L. Robinson
Mr Baillieu	Mr Falconer	Mr Lloyd	Mr I. L. Robinson
Mr Baume	Mr Fife	Mr Lucock	Mr Sainsbury
Mr Birney	Mr Fisher	Mr Lusher	Mr Shipton
Mr Bonnett	Mr Fraser	Mr Lynch	Mr Short
Mr Bouchier	Mr Garland	Mr MacKellar	Mr Sinclair
Mr Bradfield	Mr Gillard	Mr MacKenzie	Mr Street
Mr Braithwaite	Mr Goodluck	Mr McLean	Mr Sullivan
Mr Brown	Mr Graham	Mr McLeay	Mr Thomson
Mr Bungey	Mr Hamer	Mr W. McMahan	Mr Wentworth
Mr Burr	Mr Haslem	Mr McVeigh	Mr Wilson
Mr Cadman	Mr Hodgman	Mr Macphee	Mr Yates
Mr K. M. Cairns	Mr Holten	Mr Martyr	
Mr Calder	Mr Howard	Mr Millar	
Mr Chapman	Mr Hunt	Mr Moore	
Mr Chipp	Mr Hyde	Mr Neil	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr Connolly	Mr Jull	Mr Newman	Mr D. M. Cameron
Mr Cotter	Mr Katter	Mr Nixon	Mr Corbett

And so it was negatived.

- 7 AUSTRALIAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT AND PAPER: Mr Fraser (Prime Minister), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the permanent establishment of the Australian Science and Technology Council and the appointment of members to the Council, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, presented the following paper:
 Australian Science and Technology Council—Future arrangements—Report of Interim Australian Science and Technology Council, dated November 1976.
 Mr C. R. Cameron, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.
- 8 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS: A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:
 14 April 1977—Message No. 3—
 Apple and Pear Stabilization Amendment 1977.
 Apple and Pear Stabilization Export Duty Amendment 1977.
 Apple and Pear Stabilization Export Duty Collection Amendment 1977.
 Defence Amendment (No. 2) 1977.
 Asian Development Bank (Additional Subscription) 1977.
 Law Courts (Sydney) 1977.
- 9 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—PRICES AND WAGES FREEZE: Mr Speaker informed the House that both Mr Connolly and Mr Hurford had proposed that definite matters of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion today. In accordance with the provisions of standing order 107, he had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr Connolly, namely, “The need for active support from all sections of the community to ensure the effectiveness of the prices and wages freeze”. The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
 Mr Connolly addressed the House.
 Discussion ensued.
 Discussion concluded.
- 10 IMMIGRATION POLICIES AND AUSTRALIA’S POPULATION—PAPER AND MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PAPERS NOTED: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Staley (Minister for the Capital Territory)—That the House take note of the papers (*presented on 17 March 1977*), viz.:
 Immigration policies and Australia’s population—Report by the Australian Population and Immigration Council—
 Report.
 Ministerial statement, 17 March 1977—
 Debate resumed.
 Ordered—That Mr MacKellar (Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs) be granted an extension of time.
 Question—put and passed.
- 11 BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE: Mr Sinclair (Leader of the House), by leave, made a statement informing the House that the Government would not now make the statement, referred to earlier this day, regarding the Heads of Government Agreement for a 3 month pause in price and wage increases.
 Mr Scholes, by leave, also made a statement with reference to the matter.
 Mr Yates and Mr Young each asked leave to make a statement in connection with the matter.
 Objection being raised, leave not granted.
- 12 COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF ROADS (REPEAL) BILL 1977: The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—
 Debate resumed.
 Mr Innes addressing the House—

13 ADJOURNMENT: It being 10.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 10.51 p.m., adjourned until tomorrow at 2.15 p.m.

PAPERS: The following papers were deemed to have been presented on 19 April 1977, pursuant to statute:

Commonwealth Banks Act—Appointment certificate—N. J. Butler.

Customs Act and Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 45.

Customs Tariff Act—Orders—

Declared Preference Countries—

No. 1 (1975).

No. 1 (1976).

Developing Country—

Nos. 5, 6 (1976).

Nos. 1, 2, 3 (1977).

Health Insurance Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 44.

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired for marine navigation purposes—Hundred of Wilton, S.A.

Statements (2) of lands acquired by agreement authorised under sub-section 7 (1).

National Health Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 34.

Norfolk Island Act—

Ordinance—1977—No. 1—Norfolk Island Council (Amendment).

Regulations—1977—No. 1 (Public Service Ordinance).

Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinance—1977—No. 9—Housing.

Prices Justification Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 43.

Public Service Arbitration Act—Public Service Arbitrator—Determinations accompanied by statements regarding possible inconsistency with the law—1977—

No. 161—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 178—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.

No. 179—Federated Storemen and Packers Union of Australia.

No. 180—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.

No. 182—Association of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Draughtsmen of Australia.

No. 183—Association of Officers of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization and another.

No. 184—Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization Technical Association.

No. 185—Association of Officers of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization and another.

No. 186—Association of Officers of Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.

No. 187—Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners of Australia and others.

No. 188—C.S.I.R.O. Laboratory Craftsmen Association.

No. 189—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 190—Royal Australian Nursing Federation.

No. 191—Federated Engine Drivers' and Firemen's Association of Australasia.†

- No. 192—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 197—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.
 No. 198—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 199—Australian Workers' Union.
 No. 200—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.
 No. 201—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and another.
 No. 202—Australian Federated Union of Locomotive Enginemen.
 No. 203—Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
 No. 204—Australian Public Service Artisans' Association.
 No. 205—Australian Public Service Association (Fourth Division Officers).
 No. 206—Association of Railway Professional Officers of Australia and another.
 Nos. 207 and 208—Australian Workers' Union.
 No. 209—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 210—Federated Clerks Union of Australia.
 No. 211—Australian Workers' Union.
 No. 212—Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union and others.
 No. 213—Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union of Australia.
 (†Not accompanied by statement)

Remuneration Tribunals Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination—1977/2—
 Chairman of the Indicative Planning Council for the Housing Industry.
 States Grants (Schools Assistance) Act—Statement of particulars of direction
 given by Minister under sub-section 27 (4).
 Superannuation Act—Regulation—Statutory Rules 1977, No. 42

MEMBERS PRESENT: All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Anthony, Mr Bowen, Mr Dobie, Mr Giles, Mr Groom, Mr Jarman, Mr P. F. Johnson, Mr Nicholls, Mr Peacock, Dr Richardson and Mr Viner.

J. A. PETTIFER,
 Clerk of the House of Representatives